

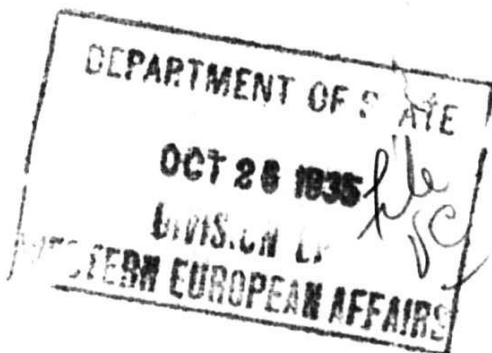
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No. 33

RAILWAYS OF TRIPOLITANIA

LIBYA.

From: American Vice Consul

Leslie Gordon Mayer

American Consulate,

Tripoli, Libya.

Date of completion: September 26, 1935.  
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RAILWAYS OF TRIPOLITANIA

L I B Y A .

The present report is intended to be a continuation of the series being prepared by this office on the communication services of this district. Previous reports were: No. 22, "Telephone and Radio Service at Tripoli", dated July 21, 1935; and No. 25, "Review of Flying Services During First Six Months of 1935 Between Italy and Tripoli", dated July 29, 1935.

The railways of Tripolitania are all government owned . They are narrow gauge, the distance between tracks being 95 centimeters. The total length of the lines is 260 kilometers. One line runs to Garian, 89 kilometers from Tripoli, at the beginning of the inland plateau, due south from Tripoli. Another line runs to Zuara, 118 kilometers from Tripoli, near the border of Tunisia. The last line is only 18 kilometers long and runs to Tagiura, a coastal oasis to the east of Tripoli. The difference between the total of these distances and the total length of the railways, a difference of 35 kilometers, is taken up by sidings and switches, as well as by lines running to the port of Tripoli, to the tobacco Monopoly, certain other industrial enterprises, and to some rock quarries.

There are at present twenty four locomotives in service here. Eight are of German manufacture, and the rest are Italian. There are also five railway motor cars for passenger service. It is said that an unstated number of additional railway motor cars are to be introduced during the current year. These are to be of the

"Littorine" type, of Italian construction, and having Diesel motors.

There are at present thirty four passenger cars and 320 freight cars in service. While more precise figures are unfortunately unavailable, it is said that the average number of passengers transported in recent years has been 180,000 per annum, while transportation of freight has averaged 190,000 tons per annum.

The total of personnel numbers three hundred.

The government appraised value of all lines and equipment is placed at Italian Lire 100,000,000.00.  
(\$1.00 equals Lire 12.295)

File 870  
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/ Sources

Sources of Information: Director of the Tripolitanian  
Railways of the Government of Libya.

Distribution: In quintuplicate to the Department of State;  
Copy for the Consul General, Naples;  
Copy for the Commercial Attaché, Rome;  
Copy for the files of the preparing office:  
American Consulate, Tripoli, Libya.

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